



Happenings at NLC

March 2024

Monthly Newsletter

"With the birth of Jesus in our hearts,
we carry light and love to the world."

Sunday Worship Service 9:30am

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20 @ 5:45PM

(all Lenten services start with soup and sandwiches at 5:00PM)

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday - March 24 @ 9:30AM

Holy Thursday - March 28 @ 6:00PM

Good Friday - March 29 @ 6:00PM

Easter Sunday Service - March 31 @ 9:30AM

Upcoming Events

March 2 - Church Spring Cleaning : 9:00AM

April 19 & 20 - Trinkets and Treasures: 9A-2P

Please visit our website at www.nlcww.org to view the NLC calendar, submit requests for dates/events, download sermons, among other things.



6363 Commercial Way, Weeki
Wachee, FL 34613 • 352-597-
1456 • www.nlcww.org

SPIRITUAL LIFE

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE - MARCH 24, 9:30AM. Come join us as we enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love. Todd Holly will blow the shofar.

HOLY THURSDAY - MARCH 28, 6:00PM is the commemoration of the Last Supper of Jesus Christ when he broke bread and poured wine as his body and blood and commanded his disciples to do the same in memory of him. This way, he established the sacrament of Holy Communion (a.k.a. the Eucharist or Sacrament of the Altar) prior to his arrest and crucifixion. According to tradition, Jesus celebrated the dinner as a Passover feast. Christ would fulfill His role as the innocent Lamb of the Passover celebrating the "exodus" from slavery to sin to the Promised Land of eternal life in him. During that meal, Jesus washed his disciples' feet as a sign of servant leadership. During the service, there will be an opportunity for those who so desire to enjoy the ritual and receive the foot-washing.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE/DARKNESS SERVICE - FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 6:00PM. A communal time of prayer, meditation, music, and Scripture reading. The dramatized reading of the Passion story will guide our reflection on Jesus' sacrificial love and final days of his physical life on earth.

EASTER SUNDAY - MARCH 31 - During Easter Sunday our regularly held worship service (9:30AM) we will rejoice and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The Author and Sustainer of life cannot be held hostage to cruelty and evil. His love response overcomes death and the grave and triumphs over fear. Those crafted in him and his words, Baptized in his death, rise with him to a new life of joy and hope.

EASTER LILIES. Lily flowers are mentioned thirteen times in the Bible. The Lord Jesus uses the beauty and simplicity of the lilies to encourage us not to be anxious about life (Matthew 6:25-34). Our traditional way of decorating the sanctuary with lilies brings us beauty and inspiration at Easter time. We will be accepting orders for Easter lilies beginning **Sunday, March 10th** at a cost of \$10.00 each. We will also have 6 hydrangeas at a cost of \$20.00 each. Special envelopes will be available in the narthex. These lilies will adorn our sanctuary March 31st, Easter Sunday's Celebration of our risen Lord. Following the 9:30AM service, you may take your lily home to enjoy.

ALTAR GUILD – March 25, 2024, 10:00AM. Our group is excited about bringing beauty to our worship area and setting the altar for our services. We invite anyone (male or female) to attend one of our meetings on the 4th Monday of each month at 10:00AM (to find out what we do and how we do it). If you have any questions you would like answered before that please, call **Suzanne Chelf at 352-684-7329.**

NLC'S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - Access our website, nlcww.org, to live stream (or play on demand) our service beginning at 9:25am Sunday mornings. ALSO, Sunday night at 6pm, tune in to WZEU-FM 102.9 on your radio for a rebroadcast of our previous weeks' Sunday Service. If you are Interested in sponsoring one of the services broadcast on WZEU in memory or honor of someone, cost is \$30 and place your donation in a green envelope and mark it WZEU and place in the offering basket.

OUTREACH

MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH: A NEW GENERATION

A New Generation is a non-profit pregnancy and relationship resource center. They have been helping women with their pregnancy decisions since 1999. Their mission is to provide evidence-based education in a compassionate and respectful environment, free of charge and completely confidential. Their services include free ultrasounds, pregnancy testing, counseling, baby items, birth mom support, post abortion healing for both men and women to name a few.

They offer support not only in the Spring Hill area, but also in Brooksville, Homosassa, Weeki Wachee, Hudson and Port Richey. Donations can be made by picking up a baby bottle at church and filling it with coins or by filling out a green envelope and marking it "A New Generation." Please drop off your bottles by Sunday, April 7 (either in the narthex or the church office). If you have any questions, please contact Elva Posewitz at 812-598-2546.

NATURE COAST INTER-FAITH COALITION (NCIC).

The Nature Coast Inter-Faith Coalition (NCIC) is made up, so far, of people practicing Judaism, Christianity, and the Baha'i faith. The purpose of the Coalition is to offer a public witness of cooperation and common hospitality. It plans to have religious and educational events, as well as service projects.

If you are interested, the Coalition will meet on the following Mondays at 10am:

March 11 - Calendar Planning Session

April 8 - Focus on Summer Art camp

May 13 - Focus on Summer Art camp

These meetings will be offered as hybrid (in-person and online), based on interest. If attending in person, let Rabbi Jen at Temple Beth David know. (phone number 352-686-7034) See our weekly e-blast for more information.

ATTENTION THRIVENT BENEFIT MEMBERS. Benefit members check with your representative or call 1-800-847-4836, and ask if you have any Choice Dollars available from 2023. You have until March 31 to designate your funds.

Also one member needed to submit an Action Team Project for Trinket & Treasures for April 20. Please contact Tim Cotter @ 352-797-9682, for more information.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL - MARCH 3 & 17. Children will depart after the Special Music during worship service, and meet the teachers in the back of the church. The children will return in time for Communion.

CONFIRMATION CLASS - MARCH 10 & 24. This class will take place after worship service on Sundays.

To register, or if you have any questions, please email Todd Holly at nativitypresidenttodd@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY LIFE

WOMEN OF NATIVITY. All women of Nativity Lutheran Church are automatically members of W.O.N. (Women of Nativity), and are welcome to participate in all sponsored activities of W.O.N.

WELCA SPRING GATHERING - MARCH 9. The Gulf Coast Conference will meet at St. Timothy in Tarpon Springs on March 9 at 9:30AM. The address is: 812 E. Tarpon Ave. A light breakfast will be served. The speaker is Daniel Reichert who has recently returned from a Young Adult Global Mission event to the Holy Land. He is a very inspirational and motivational speaker. Lunch will follow. Cost is \$10.00 and includes lunch and registration. RSVP to macaulaymary4@gmail.com.

W.O.N. let's carpool to Tarpon Springs. Meet in the church parking lot at 8:15am to leave at 8:30am SHARP. Please call either Mae Haines at 727 863 4329 or Ellen Lapinski at 773 556 4466. Be sure to leave a message when calling.

NEW DATE AND TIME! CARDS R US IS MOVING TO MONDAYS STARTING IN MARCH. We will be meeting in Winemiller Hall on Mondays, March 4 and 11, from 10:00am to 12:30pm.

Please see the Cards R Us kiosks in the narthex and the larger one in the Administration Bldg. hallway for your Easter, birthday, congratulations, get well, anniversary, sympathy cards. The suggested donation of 75 cents per card provides funds for Pastor's Discretionary Fund, used to help those in a financial crisis. Also, for those of you who would like to create cards from the congregation's used, donated greeting cards, consider this your invitation to join us in this fun ministry! You can make and purchase the cards you make to send to your loved ones, too--a personalized gift! Note that we are changing our card-making days to first and second Mondays each month. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

MARY JOY CIRCLE - MARCH 6st at 9:45AM. All women of Nativity Lutheran Church are invited to the Mary Joy Circle bible study. For questions about this ministry you can call Jean Drach at 352-684-1632.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - OUR NEXT MEETINGS WILL BE TUESDAY, MARCH 5 & 19, 2024, at 9:00AM. Days for Girls is a non-profit organization formed to help girls in developing countries stay in school. Through the Trompeter Fund and Thrivent Financial, WON (Women of Nativity) have been able to participate in this life changing mission. Please consider joining us. For more information, contact Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

CRAFTY LADIES - FRIDAYS, 9:00AM - 11:00AM. We are a group of approximately 10 women, who meet every Friday morning at Nativity from 9:00AM until 12:00 noon. These dedicated ladies, iron, cut squares, pin and sew the quilts together, and tie a knot in every square. Please come and join us. Questions? Call Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

SARAH CIRCLE, MARCH 21 @ 10:00AM. Do you know someone who is undergoing a medical procedure, in need of comfort after a loss, desiring to increase their time of prayer or meditation, preparing for marriage, in the midst of an illness, recovering from surgery, or otherwise in need of prayer? ***Prayer shawls are always available. All you need to do is ask!*** If you enjoy crocheting or knitting, and would like to help with Nativity's prayer shawl mission, join Sarah Circle on the third Thursday of the month in the Youth Room at 10:00AM. Or, if you prefer, the prayer shawls can be made in your home. For information, call Peggy Sanders at 352-382-1781.

GIVING A PRAYER SHAWL

- 1) Choose a shawl from one of the cloth baskets (each blessed shawl is in a plastic zip lock bag with a copy of "Prayer Shawl Ministry" brochure included).
- 2) Place the shawl package into one of the Nativity cloth bags.
- 3) Complete copy of the single sided Prayer Shawl Request Forms (stored above).
- 4) Put name of recipient, person giving shawl, and date given in log book.
- 5) Give the completed form to Peggy Sanders (or put in her mailbox).
- 6) Give the shawl to the recipient with our blessing.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS - PATTY FROM PATTI

Can you believe it is March already? Here is what we have this month: **Thursday, March 14, 7:00 Brookridge Entertainment.** We are going to attend a fun show in their theatre. It is "Showman" starring Frankie Scinta from Las Vegas. An exciting mix of world class vocals and interactive comedy. The normal price is \$20 but we are getting it for \$15. We have already started selling tickets on Sundays. You can either go directly to Brookridge or meet at Church at 6:00pm. If you go directly I will meet you there, if you meet at church Tim will be there. Brookridge is on Cortez. Sooo sounds like a fun night. Probably a Mystery Dinner for April, and the cook-out after service on Memorial weekend, will let you know soon. ~Patti Cotter

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will see the movie "Arthur the King" on Saturday, March 23. We'll also share a meal, devotions and a short meeting. Details on which theater and which restaurant will be decided when movie schedules are released on the preceding Wednesday, when members will be notified of these specifics. If you enjoy exciting competition and have a soft spot in your heart for dogs, you will enjoy this film. A racer adopts a stray named Arthur to join him on an epic endurance adventure. It's based on a true story, often the best kind of story. If anyone other than a Friendship Circle member wishes to join us, please contact Circle Leader Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

CLUB 75 - MARCH 26th. Club 75 is a social group that meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month for lunch at 12:00PM. Only requirement is that you must be 75 years old. Watch weekly announcements for restaurant information. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex. Any questions, please call Vicki Page at 352-210-8407.

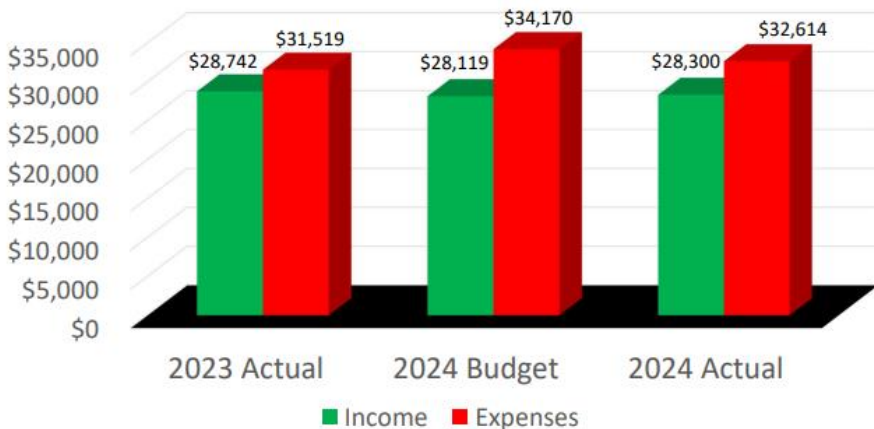
VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED ONCE A MONTH: to separate, open, and record the different offering envelopes from our Sunday church service. It will take about one hour from 8:30a-9:30a on a certain day of the week (usually on a Monday). Contact Ernst Horeis @ 352-346-2333, for more information.



TRINKETS AND TREASURES, APRIL 19 & 20 – We are getting ready for our next sale. Donations will only be accepted on Mondays from 9AM-12PM and Tuesdays from 1PM-4PM and will begin on Monday, February 26 with the last day for drop off being Tuesday, March 26. We also will need newspapers for wrapping as well as bags. There are many ways in which you can help to make this a huge success. Sign-up sheets are located on the kiosk in the narthex. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, you can contact Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119 or Janet Jones at 352-232-1074.

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT FOR JANUARY 2024

2024 Income and Expenses (Through January)



If you have any questions, please contact Scott Henkel at scott.henkel@capgemini.com.

WAYS TO DONATE TO NATIVITY. Nativity has a Venmo account. You can send a donation to: @Nativity-LutheranChurch. Also, if you prefer, Nativity has a Zelle account. Send to: nativitylutheran63@gmail.com. Also available is the QR code (see code on left) that is specifically for Nativity donations. Just point your phone's camera at it and a website address will pop up.

NOTARY SERVICE: Anyone in our congregation who needs documents notarized please contact Pat Squires, patsquires63@gmail.com, 352-667-1083, and he will provide this service free of charge to any congregation member. Pat is licensed in Florida.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED 2/11/2024



**Waylon Jim &
Denise Gearthty**



Bob Haacke



Carrie L. Hall-Tannenbaum



Sue & Ken Larsen



Gene & Donna Long



**Steve Miller &
Wayne Morris**



Phil & Joan Phoel



David & Yvonne Ristau



Maryanne Stewart



Patty & Jeff Werner

MEMBER CHANGES

New Address: Sharon Johnson
650 North Ridge Drive NW
#227
Pine City, MN 55063

REMINDERS

OFFICE HOURS - Monday through Friday - 9AM-12N

INTERNET SERVICE - To connect to our internet when on campus look for **Nativity 2**, the password is **guest1234**.

MAILBOXES: When you come to church, please take a moment to check your mailbox in Winemiller Hall and see if anything was left for you.

NEWSLETTER: If you would like to have something included in the **April** newsletter, please submit it to the office or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com by **March 15**.

WE WANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU - We understand that not everybody is online and receives the church information through emails, Facebook, or our web-based calendar. If you know of anyone that has not been able to attend church for some time, you may be the only link between them and Nativity. We would appreciate it if you would keep them included in the happenings at Nativity so that they may not miss out on activities or schedule changes. In addition, please let us know as well so that we can work to keep them in the loop about things at NLC. In addition, should you have a change in your address, phone number and/or email address, please let the office know.

NLC CALENDAR: You can view it on the website, www.nlcwww.org. If you do not have access to the website, please let us know, and we can arrange for you to receive a printed copy. In addition, on the website you can submit a request to schedule a meeting. We have many ministries scheduling meetings including non-NLC groups. If you need to reserve a room, please make sure you submit your request to the office. Submissions can be made using a form that can be obtained in the office, or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com or via the form on the website. This will help resolve any conflicts that may arise.

March Birthdays

Andreas Zybell	03/03
Barbara Hofving	03/04
Janet Holly	03/05
Charlene Massey	03/05
Ernie Horeis	03/08
Donna Olsen	03/08
Alexis Peterson	03/08
Judith Dietz	03/10
Gloria Wright	03/10
Ella Wozniak	03/10
Joanne Johnson	03/11
Eileen Smith	03/11
Cheryl Lorenzo	03/15
Clarence Crawford	03/15
Dorothy Outhouse	03/17
Leonore Kopitzke	03/19
Anita Pierce	03/20
Marilyn Henkel	03/22
Dana LaFranca	03/22



Kris Hyypio	03/23
David Ennes	03/24
Sandy Peeters	03/24
Diane Zabel	03/25
Amber Marie Oliver	03/26
Clyde Rosten	03/29
Pat Runyan	03/31

March Wedding Anniversaries

William & Windy Binns	03/05
Will & Glenna Schantl	03/09
Johnny & Brenda Mullins	03/18
Mark & Linda Hengesh	03/22



MISSION STATEMENT

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
we carry light and love to the world.

VISION STATEMENT

We seek to become people who live the nativity by...

***Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's
gracious welcome through worship, community
service, and spiritual growth opportunities.***

OUR VALUES STATEMENT

We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a Fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ. In this fellowship, there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)